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Torrance, California
December 26, 1951

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on Wednesday, December 26, 1951, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Haggard presiding.

City Clerk Bartlett introduced Mrs. Harriet Leech, the new City Treasurer, to members of the Council and the audience.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT:
COUNCILMEN: None. Also present were City Attorney Hall and
City Manager Stevens.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

Mayor Haggard stated he would entertain a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 1951. Councilman Blount said, before the minutes were approved, that he would like to refer to the last paragraph under the sub-title "Oral Communications" wherein, in his absence, the Council released the Property Management Corporation from their responsibilities in paving 174th Street. Councilman Blount stated that he would like to have it in the record that he violently disapproved of that action and didn't know of anyone in North Torrance who did approve of it. Councilman Karlow so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

City Clerk Bartlett opened the bids for a pick-up truck for the Park Department, which were as follows:

C. Fred Kerr, Gardena,-- Dodge Express B3B108 ----- \$1,498.95
Schultz and Peckham Ford Agency -- Ford Model F1 --- \$1,564.57
Paul's Chevrolet Sales & Service - Chev. Model 3104- \$1,591.35
(The above prices include State sales tax.)

Councilman Drale moved that Schultz and Peckham, being the lowest local bidder, be awarded the bid. Councilman Karlow seconded the motion. Discussion followed on the different bids and whether or not they included sales tax. Councilman Karlow withdrew his second to the motion and Councilman Spelman moved all bids be referred to the City Manager for study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Claim of B.J. Wood for damages to car caused by Police car on December 18, 1951. Councilman Spelman moved the claim be denied and referred to the insurance carrier. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Request of K. Sherman to renew junk license, which had been O.K.'d by Police Chief Stroh. Councilman Blount moved the re-

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quest be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Request of Assistant to City Engineer Patrick for re-approval of Tract No. 17330, located south of Sepulveda Boulevard and west of Tract No. 13028. This tract had been approved by the City Council on September 25, 1951 but due to the lack of signatures on the title sheet it was necessary to obtain reapproval, as the acceptance by the City Council must show on a date after the date of signatures by the subdivider. City Manager Stevens recommended the approval be made subject to compliance with the Water District Ordinance and the posting of the necessary bonds. Councilman Drale asked what District this tract would be in. City Manager Stevens replied that it would come under M.W.D. No. 1 and that we could supply them with water, also that this tract would have the standard type curbs, including gutters, sidewalks and sewers, although there was one section which could not be sewerred.

Councilman Spelman moved Tract No. 17330 be approved, subject to compliance with the Water District Ordinance and the posting of the necessary bonds. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Approval by City Manager Stevens of the recommendations made by Mr. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, relative to the Hollywood Riviera drainage problem. After reading the letter of approval, City Clerk Bartlett read a letter handed him just before the meeting, which was signed by eight residents of Hollywood Riviera and which urged the Council's approval of Items #1 and #2, as referred to in a letter written by Assistant to the City Engineer Patrick and dated December 3, 1951. The letter also requested that conferences be arranged with representatives of the residents and the Engineering Department to further explore the alternatives as developed in the discussions to date.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur with the recommendations of Mr. Patrick under Items #1 and #2. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Mayor Haggard stated, before the vote was called for, that he was in sympathy with the people in this area and would go along with the motion, but that he was not in favor of this action as it was his opinion that people all over town would be asking for flood control measures, if this was approved.

Councilman Spelman further recommended that one of the gentlemen in the audience, who was interested in this problem, leave his name and phone number, so that Mr. Patrick could arrange for a meeting as requested. (Names and phone numbers left with the secretary were: R. Jones -- Fr. 5-1384, Harold Nelk -- Fr. 5-3383, and Doug. Robbins -- Fr. 5-2789.

FILING OF ASSESSMENT DIAGRAM FOR NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1:

Acting City Engineer Stevens filed the Assessment Diagram with City Clerk Bartlett. City Clerk Bartlett presented affidavit of publication of Notice of Award of Contract. Councilman Drale moved it be received and filed, seconded by Councilman Blount and unanimously carried by roll call vote. City Clerk Bartlett presented the Assessment Diagram for a sanitary sewer system in Regina Avenue and certain other streets within what is known as the North Torrance Sewer District No. 1, in the City of Torrance. Councilman Drale moved that this Assessment Diagram be received and filed, seconded by Councilman Karlow and carried unanimously by roll call vote. The Council studied the diagram and finding it accurate and satisfactory in all particulars, made no suggestions for changes.

Acting City Engineer Stevens then presented, and City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2234

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE DIAGRAM OF THE PROPERTY BENEFITTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 2234. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2234. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the following named personnel, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve their probationary period as Laborers in the Street Department, effective December 11, 1951, at the compensation set forth as the first step for the classification:
(a) Johnny M. Arenas (b) Elmous A. Parden (c) Walter C. Bledsoe.
2. That Frances Lorraine Dubsky, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve her probationary period as Police Matron and File Clerk, effective December 16, 1951, at the compensation set forth as the first step for the classification.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendations, Items No. 1 and No. 2, under "Personnel". Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To George Green for payment for additional services started during the year 1950-51, the sum of \$2,130.00, payable in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Councilman Karlow moved to concur with the recommendation under "Appropriations". Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

(Councilman Drale requested that action be taken separately on the items under "Award of Bids".)

AWARD OF BIDS:

1. That the bid of the Lund Company for Comprehensive Bodily injury and Property Damage Liability, including automobiles, in the amount of \$9,030.00 for the first year, be accepted as the lowest bid conforming with the policy period requested by the City, and that all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Drale said that he didn't understand why this recommendation was made, when the Farmers' bid was approximately \$1,500 cheaper. Councilman Blount replied that he understood this particular policy called for a flat charge for a three-year period and that the Farmers' Company did not and would not bid on a three-year basis. When asked to verify this statement, City Manager Stevens said he could only say that they did not and that we had called for a three-year policy, which is the type we had. Councilman Drale asked if it had not been customary to renew all policies each year. In answer, Mayor Haggard stated that all policies were to come due at the end of some year, but that all policies were not renewed each year. City Manager Stevens stated that all our Fire Insurance was written under a three-year policy as are the Employee Bonds. Councilman Drale said this only leaves a very few people in the City of Torrance to bid on our insurance.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 1. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

That the bid of Torrance General Insurance for Fire, Theft and Comprehensive Insurance on City Vehicles, in the amount of

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\$451.68, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 2. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

That the bid of the Lund Company for Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance for Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, in the amount of \$0.0085 per bus mile, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Karlow moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 3. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

That the bid of W.E. Bowen for Public Employee Faithful Performance Bond, in the amount of \$900.23 for a three-year premium, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 4. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

That the bid of Torrance General Insurance for Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance - Torrance Municipal Airport, in the amount of \$155.60, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Karlow moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 5. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

That the bid of Harvel's for supplying tires, in the amount of \$2,408.53, be accepted as the bid most favorable to the City and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation under Item No. 6. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2235

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TORRANCE NATIONAL BANK TO HONOR THE SIGNATURES OF THE MAYOR, CITY CLERK AND CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 2235. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2235. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2236

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION TO HONOR THE SIGNATURES OF THE MAYOR CITY CLERK AND CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 2236. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount,

carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2236. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2237

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE RENTAL OF A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX FROM THE TORRANCE NATIONAL BANK AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK AND CITY TREASURER TO HAVE ACCESS THERETO.

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 2237. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2237. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 582

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF CERTAIN STREETS AND ALLEYS IN TRACT NO. 15757.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 582. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 582 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens recommended that the Council take steps to acquire a Central Fire Station site on the southwest corner of Carson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard, being an area approximately 150' x 300'. Councilman Spelman stated that as long as there was a plan, he would move that the matter be referred to the next Agenda Meeting for study and discussion. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Councilman Drale called attention to the fact that there is to be an election on the second Tuesday of April and that there was time to submit recommendations for propositions or amendments to be placed on the ballot. He stated that the Recreation Commission had been working on a plan to provide the necessary recreation for the City of Torrance and had recommended two possible methods to raise the funds, in order to carry out such a plan. One method is the earmarking of a 1/2¢ City sales tax for recreational purposes and the other is a Trash Pick-up fee (based on 75¢ per family unit per month, plus a sliding scale plan for commercial). Councilman Drale stated that he was in favor of a Recreation Program in the City of Torrance, but in his opinion a matter such as this should be given to the people for their choice and moved that the City Attorney be instructed to draw up the necessary proposition, to be placed on the ballot in April, including both plans as suggested by the Recreation Commission. Attorney Hall said that he would prefer that the Council give him something more definite to go on. Discussion followed with Councilman Spelman suggesting that a representative of the Recreation Commission attend the next Agenda Meeting, so that the matter could be set up properly. Councilman Drale asked if his motion could be carried over to the next Regular Meeting, but the motion was declared lost for want of a second.

Councilman Spelman asked if the Traffic Commission had made a study of the area in Hollywood Riviera and was advised that it was to be made the next afternoon at 4:00 p.m.

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Mr. Shaeffer, representative of the Farmer Insurance group, asked to direct a question to the Council and the City Manager. He said it was his understanding that the reason his company's bid had not been accepted was because their bid did not comply with the specifications, yet another bid on the Municipal Bus Line insurance had been awarded to a company which did not comply with the specifications, in that they did not carry a rating of A, AA or better. Mr. Stevens stated that it was his understanding that the Markel Service had a financial rating of AA and a surplus of over four million dollars, that the City was basically interested in the financial rating. He also stated that this company had carried the Bus Line insurance for quite a while and that their bid was less than one-half the amount of the other bid.

At 9:00 p.m. Mayor Haggard declared a recess and the meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

Mayor Haggard suggested that all bids on the Bus Insurance items be thrown out and new bids be called for. Discussion followed with the Farmers' representative asking why the City did not ask for three-year bids on fire and theft. Councilman Spelman stated that he had respect for Mr. Shaeffer's concern, but that he didn't appreciate the fact that Mr. Shaeffer was questioning the City on how they ask for their bids, that the City could call for a bid in any way they see fit. Another representative of the Farmer Insurance said it wasn't that they didn't concur with the City, but it was their duty to try to protect the City.

Councilman Blount moved that all bids under Item No. 3 of the "Award of Bids" recommendations be thrown out and re-advertised for new bids. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried with the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale moved that all bids for insurance be thrown out and the City Manager call for new bids on all five items. Motion declared lost for lack of a second.

Jack White, 4308 West 178th Place, said he had come across information to the effect that the City Council had permitted the Property Management Corporation on 174th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard to build at present with sidewalks, curbs and gutters, omitting the paving of 174th Street; that he had heard several ideas on why this was permitted. In the past some of the builders in this area have paved 174th Street from the present pavement to the curb line and it was Mr. White's opinion that this should be carried out. He asked that he be set straight on the matter.

Councilman Drale stated that it was not required under the first map that the City approved for Mr. Homer Bales to put in curbs, gutters, sidewalks or to pave the streets; that it was his and Mr. Bales thought that it would help the people in North Torrance by making that tract uniform with the other tracts on 174th Street. Mr. Bales informed Mr. Drale that, according to the approval of the original map, he didn't have to put in sidewalks - that he had deeded the City a five foot strip of land for sidewalks. City Manager Stevens said that this was not the case, that Mr. Bales had dedicated a twenty foot strip to make a 100 foot right of way, which was required on every subdivision along 174th Street. Mr. Drale stated that Mr. Bales did not have to put in street pavement, as the bond was originally put up for curbs and gutters. Councilman Blount said that he and Mr. Stevens had been to see Mr. Bales about five weeks ago and Mr. Bales had informed them that the City still had his bond and he had instructed his engineers to start the paving of 174th Street. Councilman Blount said that it was strange that this matter should come up the first meeting that he was out of town. Mr. Drale said he thought it was the fair thing to do and that it wasn't a question of putting anyone on the spot; that he did not believe the amount of the bond would have paved the street.

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Commander William A. Mason stated he was representing the people of Hollywood Riviera and that for a number of years they had been concerned over flood water conditions. He spoke at some

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Mr. White directed a question to Attorney Hall, asking if the contractor would have had any legal grounds to get an injunction against the City. Attorney Hall replied that without all the facts of the case he could not give an opinion.

length on steps taken to try to solve this important problem, giving a number of rainfall figures, reviewing the report made by Jacob Joseph, past City Engineer, and stating that he was greatly disappointed in it. It was the opinion of Commander Mason that the only answer was an assessment district for the area, but they would need some help before they could start such a project. Mr. R.F. Jones Paseo de Gracia, also spoke on this flood control problem.

There being no further oral communications, Councilman Karlow moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:45 p.m., on motion of Councilman Blount, seconded by Council Spelman, the meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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